

that opium might act upon the nerves of the stomach, without affecting the animal, if it were one, and that in search of food, it might force its way through the esophagus. This was tried and with success; the patient being thrown into an undisturbed sleep, while the motion in the stomach increased its violence. He was then held in a recumbent position, with the face downward, and the body inclined to an angle of forty-five degrees, the head being lowest. In about ten minutes, the cause of the difficulty was manifested. A snake, of dark brown color, and large size, protruded full 18 inches from the mouth, with eyes bright and glaring, with every manifestation of rage. One of the physicians immediately seized it by the neck, with the intention of drawing it out, but suddenly fell flat upon the floor, without sense or motion, as if struck by lightning! Like the conger eel, the torpedo, and several other species of marine animals, the reptile was electric; and thus were the fainting fits of the patient explained!

But a measure was soon devised to meet this difficulty. One of the physicians covered a handle of a large pair of forceps with silk, and stood ready to seize the snake, should it again appear. This soon happened, and it was seized and drawn out about two feet, struggling most violently, and emitting tremendous shocks of electricity. Two of the attending physicians, who accidentally touched it in the struggle, were knocked down. It was now feared that the electric shocks would destroy the patient; and it was furthermore ascertained that from its size, it could not be drawn out without imminent danger of rupturing the esophagus. But fertile in expedients, they suggested a new plan; which was to suffer the reptile to come out as far as possible, then, with a sharp instrument, to sever the head, and to extract it from the body by an incision into the stomach.

In about an hour it again appeared; the patient all the while being insensible from the effects of opium, aided, perhaps, by the electric shocks of the reptile. It protruded about two feet, and with a sharp hatchet, prepared for the purpose, it was suddenly divided about eighteen inches below the head. The lower part suddenly disappeared within the stomach, exhibiting violent motions for about two minutes. An incision was then made, and the fragment was extracted. It proved to be a Conger Eel, of the electric species, four feet long, and three inches in diameter.

All unpleasant symptoms have since disappeared, the wound in the stomach is healing rapidly, and the patient recovering his strength. We consider this the most remarkable case on record, of living animals found in the human stomach. A full report of the case will soon be published in our medical journals, under the sanction of the attending physicians.

#### CULTIVATION OF SPRING WHEAT.

Extract of a letter from the Hon. J. M'Call, of Rushford, Alleghany co., N. Y.

In answer to your inquiries with regard to my experiments and experience in the culture of Spring Wheat, I have the pleasure of saying they have both been very satisfactory. Previous to 1832, I had not for fifteen years sown any of that kind of wheat; when I was induced to sow two acres with three bushels of seed. The product of these two acres was seventy bushels of wheat. In 1834, my winter wheat was very badly frozen out; I went on and harrowed in spring wheat as soon as the frost had left the ground. Twelve acres of this wheat produced two hundred and seventy-six bushels, or twenty-three bushels per acre. Another piece of five acres produced one hundred and forty-nine and a half bushels, or thirty bushels to the acre. Another piece, sown on wheat stubble, produced twenty-two bushels to the acre.

Last spring I sowed ten acres of wheat stubble, which was ploughed once in November, and the seed was harrowed in as early in the spring as the frost would permit; this will yield me twenty bushels per acre. I also sowed four acres from which corn had been taken the year previous, and which will give me thirty bushels to the acre. As a continuation of my former experiments of sowing spring wheat on winter killed wheat, I sowed one bushel on spots where winter wheat had been killed out by snow drifts, one-half of which, at least, was picked up by the pigeons, yet the remainder produced sixteen bushels, and had I sown all that was killed out of the piece of nine acres, it would have added to my crop fifty bushels more.

I am so well satisfied with my experience on this subject, that I would, in all cases where wheat is badly winter killed, whether in spots or generally, recommend to sow the ground with spring wheat, and harrow it in as early as you are satisfied that the old roots are dead. Harrowing lightly over wheat that is alive, will not injure the roots at all, and the scattering winter wheat that grows up will produce no injurious effect. Between the two you are sure of a good crop; and besides you keep out of the land grass, weeds, and other foul stuff, such as cockle, chess, &c., which every farmer knows will spread on the uncultivated soil to a thousand fold.

Some of my best neighboring farmers have been, for a number of years, in the

practice of preparing their ground, intended for wheat, in the previous fall, and sowing their spring wheat, as stated above, as early as possible, and uniformly succeeded in getting good crops.

Spring wheat is more apt to smut than winter wheat; but I have not had any smutty wheat of the kind, neither do I have any in my winter wheat. Being satisfied that smut is contagious, I have for twenty years washed all my seed wheat in strong brine, or pickle, and skim off all that floats on the top. When the wheat has drained in a basket a few minutes, I mixed dry lime with it, letting it lie twelve hours, and if longer it will sustain no injury.

There are two kinds of spring wheat raised by farmers in the county, the bearded and the bald; which is the best to yield I am not able to say, having raised none but the bearded; but it is evident the bald would be the most pleasant to work amongst. Yours, &c., JAS. M'CALL.

#### NEW SORT OF INDIAN CORN.

House of Representatives, Feb. 15, 1837. T. G. Fessenden, esq.

DEAR SIR:—I am indebted to the hon. Henry L. Ellsworth, commissioner of patents in this city, for a small quantity of Indian corn—a description of which you have in a letter from Mr. Ellsworth to Thomas N. Balden, esq. of Maryland. The package of corn I have sent by John H. Dexter, esq. of Boston, and will thank you to make such disposition of it as you may deem proper.

I remain, dear sir, your obedient servant, ABBOTT LAWRENCE.

Patent office, Jan. 30, 1837.

SIR:—Hearing of some great improvements that had been made in the common corn, I addressed a letter to Mr. Baden, a highly respectable gentleman in Maryland, to ascertain what facts I could on the subject.

His letter is very interesting, and I transmit a copy of it. This experiment of Mr. Baden shows most clearly what can be done to improve seeds, by carefully selecting each year the best kind raised. Theoretical opinions sustain Mr. Baden; but a few experiments have been tried successfully. What might be effected for agriculture by similar efforts?

The like efforts, in improving the breed of animals, have been crowned with great success, especially in Europe. I avail myself of this opportunity to send you small sample of the corn, mentioned by Mr. Baden. I will only add, that I have conversed with several persons who have planted the "Baden" corn, and the concurrent opinion of all sustains the statements made in the letter. I have a few samples at the patent office, of corn raised in this neighborhood, which has four and five ears on a stalk; and I expect soon some stalk containing six, seven and eight ears. If this corn were generally introduced, how greatly the amount of bread stuffs might be increased without any extra labor. I hope some public spirited citizens will try to improve wheat, oats, barley and other grains.

I avail myself of the opportunity to mention the introduction of Italian spring wheat, with great success. A friend of mine, in Connecticut, raised, the last year, 40 bushels on an acre. This grain is heavy; makes good flour; yields well and the crop avoids all danger of winter freezing. I have ordered a quantity of this corn and wheat to be shipped to Indiana, and intend to try both on the fine soil of the Wabash valley, the ensuing summer.

I am yours, very respectfully, HENRY L. ELLSWORTH.

N. B.—Be careful to plant this corn in a place by itself. When good seed is planted with poor seed, the former will degenerate. H. L. E.

[From the N. Y. Journal of Commerce.]

#### LATER FROM EUROPE.

By the packet ship Europe, Captain Marshall, from Liverpool; and Montreal, Capt. Champlin, from London, we have English papers to March 4th.

Cotton had lost the advance which took place about the 20th of February. The condition of the money market was about as it had been for a week or two. It is difficult for us to understand how pecuniary difficulty can exist where all good paper can be discounted at the rate of five per cent per annum.

The contest between the principles of equal rights and the privileged orders is getting warm again in England.

The following notice has just been issued by the Bank:

The Governor and Company of the Bank of England do hereby give notice that on and after the 2d instant, they will be ready to receive applications for loans upon the deposit of approved bills of exchange, not having more than 95 days to run; such loans to be repaid on or before the 15th of April next, with interest at the rate of £5 per cent per annum, and to be for sums of not less than £2000 each.

FRANCE.—The Journal des Tribunaux of the 21st says:—Two more persons were arrested to-day, on account of the conspiracy against the King's life. Their names are Marais, a shoemaker, and Lafleur. They were immediately examined. Marais, in particular, appears to be deeply implicated by the testimony

of Sage, Champion's mistress, who was arrested yesterday.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—The investigations into the circumstances of Champion's criminal project, were continued yesterday, but no fresh arrest took place. The body of Champion was taken down into the vaults, and carried to-day to the Morgue, where it will be anatomized. He was about 45 years of age.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—On Monday, the anniversary of the execution of Fieschi, Morey and Pepin, three individuals were arrested in the act of placing chaplets on the tomb of Pepin, in the cemetery of Mont Parnasse. They were immediately handed over to the civil power. This manifestation of feeling acquires a degree of seriousness from a circumstance which took place the day before. A funeral ceremony in honor of Pepin had been decided at the French church of the St. Louis. Letters of convocation issued, as the text sufficiently indicated, to the "brothers and friends" in the capital, were couched in the following terms:—You are invited to assist at a funeral service in honor of citizen Pepin, beheaded by the Thermidorians, in the 44th year of the Republic. Health and Fraternity. The authorities were informed of the circumstance in time, and the service was not allowed to take place.

GREAT FLOOD AT ANTWERP.—Antwerp, Feb. 25.—It blew a most tremendous gale on the 24th, which caused the waters to rise two feet higher than the high tide of 1835. Yesterday morning about seven o'clock, the new dyke, constructed about two years ago, to repair the one the Dutch blew up in 1830, gave way, and the whole of the Polders, as far as Callio, are covered with water nine feet deep, at low water. Several persons, horses, and cattle have perished, but the extent has not been ascertained. As it was market day, it is feared many people have met with a watery grave. The shipping before the town have not suffered, but some small crafts were washed up on the quay. It is reported that the dyke at Sherbreck has also given way.

PERSIA.—A letter from Constantinople states that the Shah of Persia has sustained a defeat from the rebel Turcomans, and lost 2000 prisoners.

SPAIN.—It was reported on the 2d, in London, that Gomez had been shot, by order of Don Carlos.

RUSSIA.—Several German journals affirm that immense warlike preparations are going on in Russia; among others, a recent ukase ordering a levy of one man in five, and large contract for cannon in Sweden.

Extract of a letter of the 12th of Feb. from Odessa:—"The war in the Caucasus, which has hitherto excited but little interest, begins to assume a serious aspect, and the Russian Government is becoming apprehensive of the consequences. The troops of Gen. Willamoff are unable to keep the field against the Tcherkes. A detachment of Cossacks were cut to pieces. In December, several Russian vessels, conveying provisions ammunition for the government, were captured by the Tcherkes. These occurrences demand extraordinary measures. Consequently Count Woronzo, governor general of New Russia, has authorized all merchant vessels to carry sail for the coasts of Asia and Mingrelia. Vlassoff, Hetman of the Don, and General Ladynski, who command the Cossacks of the Black Sea, have received orders to send twelve regiments of that force to join the corps in Asia; and four regiments of infantry, with a park of artillery, are to be embarked for Souham Kale and Soudjouk Kale. It is also said that another corps is to be sent from Erivan against the Tcherkes. Notwithstanding the vigilance of Russia, and the injunction of the Turkish and Persian governments forbidding the inhabitants to hold a communication with the mountaineers of the Caucasus, the latter maintained through the Kara Packs, the Kudes and the Turcomans, all they stand in need of to carry on the war. Several tribes of the Lezhis, the most implacable enemies of the Russians, have joined the Tcherkes, and we are assured that the latter have among them some distinguished foreign officers; so that the war is now carried on systematically, and not as formerly by mere parties of brigands."

[From the Nat. Intelligencer, March 29.]

#### FROM MEXICO.

We take from the N. Y. Daily Express the following extract of a letter from a Mexican in Tampico, to William Kidd, Esq. of the Merchant's Exchange, N. Orleans, the contents of which are said to be believed, to be entirely true by those actually acquainted with the state of affairs in Mexico. "Dear Sir.—Notwithstanding the nonsensical rant in the American papers concerning this country, and the expedition destined to operate against the Mexicans, you should know that the Mexicans and the Government are resolved to make Texas enter into its duty, and they will do so. Every thing is now ready for the march of the troops, which are composed of 6,000 infantry and 1,200 cavalry, with their corresponding artillery; and the command is confided to Gen. Bustamante, well known for his valor and patriotism. Although with great trouble there have been equipped

four brigs, three schooners, and eleven gun-boats; and there are expected daily from Jamaica two good steamboats and one brig, under the command of William M'Kenzie, who served with Commodore Porter in the war of independence. As soon as these vessels arrive, about 1000 men will be embarked to operate by sea against Galveston, and the other troops will go by land, to unite with them, under the command of Bustamante. The arrival of Santa Anna will not change in the least degree, the aspect of things in Texas, because he has agreed with Bustamante and our Government; and I repeat that the expedition will start about the middle of March, if not before."

[From the New Orleans Bee, March 15.]

#### SANTA ANNA'S GOOD FAITH.

The following letter from Gen. Santa Anna which we find in the government paper of Mexico, the Dario del Gobierno, is another striking commentary upon his good faith, veracity and honor. It is addressed to the Minister at War: "Your Excellency: I addressed you in Texas on the 22d of November last, an official communication requesting you to make known to his excellency the President *ad interim* that having obtained my liberty I was about to visit the United States, and should embark at Baltimore, after having visited the capital, (Washington.)

I accomplished this long and painful voyage, following the steps of those by whom I was accompanied, and I have arrived at this port to-day in an United States national vessel, which the President, Gen. Jackson, had the kindness to place at my disposal, in order that I might make the passage safely and commodiously.

I leave to-morrow for my country residence, at Manjo del Clavo, where I expect to be united to my family, of whose situation I have been entirely ignorant for the past year. In that peaceful retreat, which I have determined never again to quit, I ask you to give me a detailed account of the event, by which I was placed at the disposition of the enemy, and all that has transpired during my captivity, and which has been the means of procuring for me so much calumny and vengeance. I shall send you all the documents upon that subject, through the medium of Col. Juan N. Almonte, in order that the President *ad interim* may have knowledge of them.

In the interval I shall devote my time in compiling and publishing a document detailing clearly the circumstances of the unfortunate campaign to Texas. This step is necessary to the public mind desirous of preserving his reputation; and he should be ever ready to give the people an account of his conduct, and place it in a veritable point of view; more especially, should he do this, when passion is enlisted against him. I shall also lay before Congress what I conceive the most efficacious means to terminate the war, leaving them to adopt such measures as they may judge necessary.

The unfortunate situation in which the prisoners of St. Jacinto find themselves call for the compassion of the government, and I implore that compassion for them in the most ardent manner. The little pecuniary assistance which is afforded them by the way of New Orleans enables them to subsist, and procures the vestments which are indispensable. Those unfortunate men have lost their liberty, and if we do not come to their aid when they are in such great distress, it will result in discouraging the most ardent defenders of our country's cause.

On my departure from Texas I was informed by Mr. Samuel Houston, to whose kind proceedings I am indebted for life and liberty, that it was his intention to place all the prisoners at the disposition of the Mexican Consul in New Orleans in order that he might send them to Vera Cruz. But, as another expedition has been spoken of, since that time, under the command of his excellency the general of division, Don Nicholas Bravo, it is probable that Houston has changed his mind; and that, I myself, would not have been placed at liberty had I deferred six days longer my departure, for the lower classes in that country are very violent.

The pleasure I feel in again treading upon my native land, after the many outrages and tribulation I have endured; that pleasure, I say, was considerably diminished when I was informed that there were some individuals, believing my disgrace was so much greater, because I had betrayed my country and compromised her independence. What betray an object so dear to my heart, I who have so often fought to preserve her inviolable! Would it not be better that I should perish in the midst of my enemies, than that I should be the mark of so serious and unjust an accusation coming from my own fellow countrymen? In this case as well as in many others I have been the victim of calumny, and in order to place myself beyond the power of those charges I should protest to your excellency, and in the face of the entire world, that I obtained my liberty without subscribing to any conditions whatever; that either before or since that conjuncture, I have not made with any, let him be who he may, any contract that might bring reproach upon the national independence or honor, or place in jeopardy the integrity of the territory; that accordingly I could have given no guarantees whatever to any

individual or government relative to those pretended stipulations, and before consenting, either willingly or through force to any such conditions, I would have suffered a thousand deaths before subscribing to such terms.

Your excellency will be pleased to make known all these facts to the President *ad interim*, and to facilitate him on account of the peace which reigns throughout the republic under the auspices of the new fundamental laws which the nation has enacted through the medium of their representatives.

I pray your excellency to accept the assurance of my high consideration and profound esteem. God and Liberty.

ANTONIO LOPEZ DE SANTA ANNA. Vera Cruz, Feb. 20th, 1837.

[From the Nat. Intelligencer, March 29.]

#### LATEST FROM FLORIDA.

The news from Florida is not by any means of as favorable a complexion, as that lately received.

The following is an extract of a letter received by the editor of the Charleston Courier from St. Augustine, under date of March 17.

An express arrived here from Gen. Jessup this morning, bringing despatches as late as the 12th of March. We understand he is not so sanguine as to the result of the treaty lately entered into with the chiefs, as would appear from the letters published in our last. He expresses doubts as to the ability of the chiefs to govern their people, and particularly their young men. And he also doubts the faith of Philip, chief of the Topokiley Indians. Philip has a force of about 400 men.

Information also reached Charleston, on the 20th, by Captain Southwick, from St. Augustine, that a few moments before his leaving that place, an express arrived from Picolata dated the same morning, (18th inst.) which stated that the Indians attacked that place on the previous night and were beaten off—further Capt. S. could not learn, but this can be relied on. The bugle was sounding as the Mills was leaving the harbor; it was said, that Capt. Hanson's company had been ordered to muster and march forthwith to Picolata, or in that direction. Capt. S. did not understand what the result was, only that the Indians were beaten off, they carrying with them some horses.

From Volusia we learn, (says the Charleston Courier,) that orders had been sent to Col. Fanning, by Gen. Jessup, that in case he should receive no orders from the latter to the contrary by the 7th, he should again take the field. In consequence of these instructions, Col. Fanning, with his command of about 500 men, marched on the 8th for Lake Monroe.

THE DEPREDACTION AT PICOLATA.—The St. Augustine Herald of the 22d instant, after detailing the particulars of the depredations at Picolata, which that paper ascribes to "a party of Indians," says further:

"Immediately upon the receipt of the above, scouting parties were ordered out to scour the country in every direction. Capt. Hanson, with a detachment took their trail on Saturday, and followed it as far as the Gap in the big Cypress Swamp, about six miles south of Palatka where he discovered their camp. From appearances, they must have precipitated, as they left all their plunder, blankets, and provisions, taking with them their rifles. Capt. H. retook two horses, and destroyed all the Indians had left, by burning it."

WASHINGTON, March 24.

Cabinet meetings have been held every day this week, upon the subject of the Treasury Order. The discussions have, it is said, been rather warm, and it is believed that a majority of the Cabinet are decidedly in favor of revoking the order, forthwith. The matter is unsettled; but those who have had, within the last two days, the best opportunities to know the views and dispositions of the President on the question, say that he is afraid to repeal the order and will not do it. Further, they say he will not shut up the land offices, nor, in any other way, evade or relax, or do away with the measure,—except by delaying the regular land sales by auction till Congress shall have an opportunity to act on the whole subject. The lands subject to entry can in the mean time be entered as usual,—and the amount of entries at present is not on the decrease.—*Four. of Commerce.*

PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.—Mr. Harris, whig, is elected a member of the Convention to amend the Constitution, by the district composed of the counties of Union, Juniata and Mifflin, in the room of Mr. D. Colwell, dec'd, by a majority of 53 votes. The Convention now stands, Whigs 67, Van Buren 64.—*Franklin Repos.*

The Pennsylvania House of Representatives have passed a bill appropriating \$1,033,000 to various objects of internal improvements. The Senate have passed a bill appropriating the \$500,000 due from the United States Bank, to the common school fund.

FIRE.—Another fire occurred at Johnstown, Montgomery co., N. Y., on the 5th inst.—by which property to the amount of from 15 to \$20,000 was destroyed.

A LAUNCH EXTRAORDINARY.—A ship from the country.—A correspondent of the Ellsworth (Maine) Radical, under date of Blue Hill, March 18, 1837, gives an interesting account of the launching of a vessel as follows:

On Wednesday of last week, the 8th inst., we witnessed with considerable interest what seldom occurs in this country, and never was before seen in this place—a ship coming out of the country on dry land. A vessel of seventy-two tons burthen, built by a number of the farmers of this town, at the distance of three and a half miles from salt water, was moved by the power of men and oxen into her destined element.

At the time appointed, about 60 yokes of oxen and from 400 to 500 men and boys appeared on the spot. The vessel was placed upon a sled made for the purpose, about 30 feet in length, and 8 feet in breadth. To this sled the oxen were attached by means of two chain cables, and arranged in two divisions so as to draw side by side. Two hawsers were attached to the quarters of the vessel, on either side. By these a crowd of men drew with no little power, either forward or aft, as their power was needed to aid the oxen in going 'ahead,' or to nullify their power in descending hills. Two ropes were also attached to the bowsprit, by means of which twenty or thirty men on each side guided her with ease.

At a little past nine o'clock A. M. all was ready, and the word given to proceed. Some little difficulty occurred at the outset, but soon all was in order, and moving forward with great regularity and ease. In descending some of the sharpest hills, it was deemed expedient to place a part of the team in the rear to prevent too rapid a descent, so that for the greater part of the distance she was drawn by thirty yoke of oxen, together with the aid afforded by the men. The whole company dined on the road, and the oxen were baited, which necessarily took up considerable time; but still, in six hours from the first move, she was safely landed on the ice some distance from the wharf: not the slightest accident occurred, nor was the least disorder witnessed during the day.

To those who never witnessed the like, the sight must have been one of no ordinary interest. To see a vessel of such size and weight, preceded by a team so long, accompanied by such a crowd of men, and all in perfect order, moving slowly forward with majestic ease, traversing hills and valleys, passing through woodlands and open plains, plunging through snow drifts and skating upon the ice, still holding her course onward towards the sea, had indeed quite an air of the sublime.

It is proper to remark that this vessel has been built and hauled without the aid (or, to speak more accurately, without the hindrance) of spirits. This accounts for the perfect order which prevailed at the hauling, and the safety and dispatch with which it was accomplished.

MOBILE MARCH 12.—The Watchman arrived from Pensacola, just as we were making up this paper, with the following alarming report:—"An express arrived at Pensacola on Saturday evening, from the Agent of the Apalachi Indians, stating that several bodies of the hostile Creek Indians, which were estimated to amount to from 300 to 400, were in the neighborhood of the Black Water, (about 30 miles from Pensacola), and had murdered several families, and committed many other depredations. A meeting of the citizens of Pensacola was called, and a volunteer company of mounted men raised, and a committee appointed to wait upon Com. Dallas who had prepared an expedition to depart to-day at 12 M."—*Register*

COUNTERFEIT.—Counterfeit five dollar notes of the Hartford bank, Con. are circulating freely in this region. They are made payable to N. Morgan, signed H. A. Perkins, President, and Jno. Trumbull, Cashier, dated 1st Jan. 1836. The vignettes very coarse and may be easily detected by their having a figure of a horse's head in the left hand margin of the bill—the true note having no such figure. A new emission of Tens, bank of Rochester, signed A. M. Schermerhorn Cashier, Levi Ward, jr. Pres't, are also in circulation. They are from the same plate of those we have been so plentifully supplied with for some months past, with the above name inserted for those of F. Budwell, Pres't, and J. Seymore Cash'r. Schermerhorn's name is written not quite so heavy as in the genuine notes.

MONTREAL, Mar. 9.—Sickness has become very general throughout the city, and nearly every family has some member of it laid up. Colds, scarlet fever, small-pox, measles, whooping cough, and sore throats, are the most numerous complaints. Fevers, many of them of a most dangerous type, are also prevalent.

Capt. Farren, of brig Montevideo, from Cadiz, reports that the British government steamer came in from Malta the 18th of February, bringing intelligence that Smyrna had been destroyed by an earthquake, and 4000 persons lost their lives. We trust there is no mistake about this.